

LEBBEUS EDGERTON HOUSE
Main Street, Randolph Center
Town of Randolph, Orange County, Vt.

HABS No. VT. 38

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
120 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

LEBBEUS EDGERTON HOUSE

Location: Main Street, Randolph Center, Town of Randolph,
Orange County, Vermont.

Present Owner: Wesley Herwig, Randolph Center, Vt.

Present Occupant: Owner.

Present Use: Private residence.

Brief Statement
of Significance: This brick house, typical of its period, was built
by Lebbeus Edgerton, a Vermont politician.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Lebbeus Edgerton was the original owner. The present owner, Wesley Herwig, acquired the house in 1950.
2. Date of erection: The wood rear ell was erected in 1801 while the brick front portion was erected in 1830.
3. Architect, builder, suppliers etc.: The architect was presumably Edgerton while the builder, suppliers etc. were local.
4. Original plans, construction etc.: Unknown.
5. Notes on alterations and additions: The house was re-modeled presumably during the latter part of the 19th century. The partition between the entrance stair hall and the living room was removed. The tops of the three chimneys on the front portion of the house were removed, just below the roof. A chimney was added to the back wall of the front portion of the house to serve a basement furnace and the original 12 over 12 light windows were replaced with 2 over 2 light windows. The present owner has replaced most of the 12 over 12 windows. The rear wood ell has undergone various changes, the most recent of which was made by the present owner in 1959.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure

Lebbeus Edgerton was a representative to the Vermont State Congress in 1825-26 and Lieutenant Governor of Vermont in

1831-35, (Hemenway, ii, 1042(2) and ii, 1175(2)). He rose to political power in the Anti-Masonic party movement of the 1820's and disappeared from political life with the decline of the party in the 1830's. He served until 1835 as Superintendent of the building of the second Vermont Capitol Building which was completed in 1838 and later burned. Ammi Burnham Young, who served as architect for the Capitol, would have been in close contact with Edgerton during the time Edgerton was building his house and possibly had an informal influence on its design, particularly in the elaborate facade detail.

C. References

1. Mr. Wesley Herwig, Randolph Center, Vermont.
2. Abby Maria Hemenway, Editor, The Vermont Historical Gazetteer, Volume ii, Burlington, Vermont, 1871.

D. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated

Town Records, Randolph, Vermont.

Prepared by Osmond R. Overby
November 1959

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: This is a typical brick house for the period, but with unusually elaborate exterior detail and a well-preserved third floor social room or ballroom.
2. Condition of fabric: Excellent.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: Two and a half stories. The brick front portion is approximately 35' x 27', plus frame rear ell.
2. Foundations: Cut granite foundations.
3. Wall construction: Main block - brick masonry. Flemish

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bond all around. Marble lintels over doors and windows. Rear ell - hewn timber frame, clapboards.

4. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: Cut granite entrance stoop.
5. Chimneys: There are three chimneys in front masonry part of building which originally served stoves for heating but are now cut off below the roof line and do not show. One chimney in wood ell and one modern chimney at the back of the masonry part were added when central heat was installed for the furnace.
6. Openings
 - a. Doorways and Doors: The front door has six panels with side lights and fan light on a three centered arch, elaborately decorated with four deeply carved Ionic pilasters. There is a closed off side door and a modern six panel side door on rear ell.
 - b. Windows and shutters: There are 12 over 12 double hung windows with fixed slat shutters. Palladian window on the third floor in the front gable, 1/2 round center window with side lights elaborately decorated with four Ionic pilasters.
7. Roof
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof, gable end to the street, asphalt shingles. Two story Ionic pilasters at the corners meet the eave cornice. Gable roof on rear wood ell.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Boxed eaves, moulded trim with dentil course.
 - c. Dormers, cupolas: None.

C. Technical Description of Interiors

1. Floor Plans (by floor): First floor - entrance and stair hall to front left; living room to the front right (original partition between living room and hall removed); dining room to rear; kitchen in ell; shed behind kitchen. Second floor: Bedrooms in similar arrangement. Entire third floor one room used as a social room or ballroom,

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sloped and arched ceiling follows the roof line, built-in benches along the walls with painted artificial graining.

2. Flooring: Wide Pine flooring. Hardwood over the original Pine flooring on the first floor only.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: Plastered walls and ceilings, wall paper and paint finishes.
4. Doorways and doors: 4 and 6 panel interior doors. A few later doors, an interior French door.
5. Trim: Simple moulded wood trim.
6. Hardware: Some original wrought iron, various later types.
7. Lighting: Electric.
8. Heating: Central.

D. Site

1. General Setting and orientation: Faces East.
2. Enclosures: None.
3. Walks, Driveways, etc.: Gravel driveway, entrance path.
4. Landscaping, gardens, etc.: Informal landscaping - lawn, trees, shrubs, flowers.

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ADDENDUM TO:
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PHOTOGRAPHS

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
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